

## MINUTES

### STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Ladislaus B. Dombrowski Board Room  
John A. Hannah Building  
608 West Allegan  
Lansing, Michigan

January 10, 2001  
10:00 a.m.

Present: Mr. Arthur E. Ellis, Chairman  
Mr. John Austin  
Mrs. Sharon L. Gire  
Mrs. Marianne Yared McGuire  
Dr. Herbert S. Moyer  
Mrs. Kathleen N. Straus  
Mr. Michael David Warren, Jr.  
Mrs. Eileen L. Weiser  
Mrs. Sharon A. Wise  
Mr. Scott Jenkins, Representing Governor John Engler, ex officio

#### I. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Ellis called the meeting to order at 10:35 a.m.

#### II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND ORDER OF PRIORITY

- A. Report of the Superintendent - 2000-2001 State Discretionary Projects, Part B - added to agenda

**Mr. Warren moved, seconded by Mrs. Wise, that the State Board of Education approve the agenda and order of priority, as modified.**

**The motion carried unanimously.**

#### III. AGENDA MATERIALS

- A. Revised Page 6 of the State Board of Education Minutes of Meeting of December 14, 2000

#### V. INFORMATIONAL MATERIALS PROVIDED TO THE BOARD

- A. Update on Educational Legislation - Memorandum dated January 2, 2001, from Kate McAuliffe to the Board

- B. State Board Policy Making: Past Actions and Next Steps - Memorandum dated January 1, 2001, from Mike Addonizio to the Board

V. APPROVAL OF STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES

- A. Approval of State Board of Education Minutes of Meeting of November 16, 2000

**Mrs. Straus moved, seconded by Dr. Moyer, that the State Board of Education approve the minutes including the revised Page 6 of the meeting of November 16, 2000.**

**The motion carried unanimously.**

- B. Approval of State Board of Education Minutes of Meeting of December 14, 2000

**Mr. Warren moved, seconded by Mr. Austin, that the State Board of Education approve the minutes of the meeting of December 14, 2000.**

**The motion carried unanimously.**

VI. DISCUSSION AND REVIEW OF APPLICATIONS FOR THE POSITION OF SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

**Mrs. Wise moved, seconded by Mr. Warren, that the State Board of Education convene in closed session in order to review applications of individuals for the position of Superintendent of Public Instruction who have requested confidentiality, as provided in Section 8(f) of the Open Meetings Act.**

**A roll call vote was taken on the motion:**

**Austin - Aye  
Gire - Aye  
McGuire - Aye  
Moyer - Aye  
Straus - Aye  
Warren - Aye  
Weiser - Aye  
Wise - Aye**

**The motion carried.**

VII. RECESS

The Board met in closed session from 10:40 a.m. until 12:55 p.m. at which time the Board recessed for lunch, and reconvened at 2:00 p.m. in open session.

VIII. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

No one asked to address the Board at this time.

IX. ELECTION OF STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION OFFICERS FOR 2001-02

A. Election of President of the State Board of Education

Mr. Ellis declared nominations open for the President of the State Board of Education.

Mrs. Wise nominated Mrs. Eileen Weiser for President of the State Board of Education. Mrs. Wise said she feels Mrs. Weiser would be an outstanding President of the State Board of Education and, because of the current philosophical and political environment in both Lansing and Washington it would best serve the children in Michigan to have a Republican serve as the President of the State Board of Education.

Mr. Warren supported the nomination. He said this nomination is based on principles, not politics or personality, and it would be in the best interest of the children of Michigan for this nomination to succeed.

Mr. Ellis asked Mrs. Weiser if she would accept the nomination.

Mrs. Weiser responded that she would accept the nomination.

The vote was taken on the election of Mrs. Eileen Weiser as President of the State Board of Education.

**Ayes: Warren, Weiser, Wise**

**Nays: Austin, Gire, McGuire, Moyer, Straus**

**The motion failed.**

Mr. Austin said it is an important for the Board to work in a bipartisan manner to improve education in Michigan and, therefore, he nominated the following slate of officers:

President - Mrs. Kathleen Straus

Vice President - Mrs. Sharon L. Gire

Secretary - Mr. Michael David Warren, Jr.

Treasurer - Mrs. Eileen Lappin Weiser

National Association of State Boards of Education (NASBE) Delegate -

Mrs. Marianne Yared McGuire

Mr. Ellis asked Mrs. Straus, Mrs. Gire, Mr. Warren, Mrs. Weiser, and Mrs. McGuire if they would accept their respective nominations.

Mrs. Straus, Mrs. Gire, Mr. Warren, Mrs. Weiser, and Mrs. McGuire responded that they would each accept the nomination.

Dr. Moyer supported this slate because he feels Mrs. Straus and Mrs. Gire will bring experience to their respective positions, and they each have the ability to work with both Republicans and Democrats.

The vote was taken on the election of Mrs. Kathleen Straus as President, Mrs. Sharon Gire as Vice President, Mr. Michael David Warren, Jr., as Secretary, Mrs. Eileen Weiser as Treasurer, and Mrs. Marianne Yared McGuire as NASBE Delegate.

**Ayes: Austin, Gire, McGuire, Moyer, Straus, Warren, Weiser**  
**Abstain: Wise**

**The motion carried.**

Mrs. Straus thanked the Board for its confidence in electing her President. She said she is eager for the Board to have a bipartisan approach and work as a team to improve student achievement in Michigan. She said it is imperative for the Board to simultaneously focus on selecting a new Superintendent of Public Instruction and developing a plan for the next two years. She said she is confident that the Board will be able to work closely with the Legislature and the Governor's office to accomplish the goals it sets for education in Michigan.

X. ADOPTION OF MEETING SCHEDULE FOR 2001

There was extensive discussion regarding whether the Board should set an annual calendar today, or establish the date for the February meeting, and address the schedule for the remainder of the year at that time.

Mr. Warren said he has proposed two alternative meeting schedules which entail either seasonal breaks in April, August, and December (the "Seasonal" calendar) or a six week period between regular meetings (the "Six Week" calendar). He said either schedule would provide staff with advance time to prepare material focusing on the policymaking role of the Board.

**Mr. Warren moved, seconded by Mrs. Wise, that the State Board of Education adopt the "Six Week" calendar for 2001.**

Concern was raised, and discussion ensued regarding the inconsistency of the meeting dates, for example, not having meetings on the third Thursday of each month. Board members felt that it may be confusing to some to not have that consistency.

Mr. Warren withdrew his motion, Mrs. Wise her support.

**Mr. Warren moved, seconded by Mrs. Wise, that the State Board of Education adopt the "Seasonal" calendar for 2001.**

There was extensive discussion regarding the "Seasonal" calendar and the impact it would have on in-depth presentations to the Board, as well as allowing staff more time to prepare for meetings. Board members felt that if this calendar were adopted, it would be possible to convene during the "off" periods if necessary.

The vote was taken on the motion.

**Ayes: Warren, Weiser, Wise**

**Nays: Austin, Gire, McGuire, Moyer, Straus**

**The motion failed.**

**Mrs. Straus moved, seconded by Mrs. Gire, that the State Board of Education approve the meeting schedule provided as Exhibit A of the Superintendent's memorandum dated January 3, 2001.**

**Ayes: Austin, Gire, McGuire, Moyer, Straus, Weiser, Wise**

**Nay: Warren**

**The motion carried.**

The 2001 meeting schedule is attached as Exhibit A.

## **XI. DISCUSSION REGARDING STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION BYLAWS**

Mr. Ellis said the current State Board of Education Bylaws no longer fit the structure of Michigan law. He said a subcommittee to review the Bylaws was appointed by

the Board last year, but due to pending Executive Orders, no action was taken. He said the document provided to the Board actually includes two parts: (1) the Bylaws; and (2) Procedural Policies.

Discussion was held regarding the Bylaws and the Procedural Policies, and the format and approval process for each.

There was consensus to form a new Bylaws subcommittee to work with Department staff and the Attorney General's office.

Mrs. Straus suggested that the subcommittee report back to the Board within the next couple of months.

Mrs. Straus asked Mrs. McGuire, Mr. Warren, and Mrs. Gire to be on the Bylaws subcommittee.

Mrs. McGuire, Mr. Warren, and Mrs. Gire, agreed to be on the subcommittee.

XII. DISCUSSION REGARDING STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION GOALS SETTING FOR 2001-02

Mrs. Straus said it is imperative for the Board to establish its goals for 2001-02 within the next couple of months. She said the Board, in the past, has utilized a facilitator to help identify goals, and also had a session lead by Ms. Brenda Welburn, Executive Director, National Association of State Boards of Education (NASBE).

There was extensive discussion regarding which direction the Board should take at this point, and whether a facilitator or Ms. Welburn would be beneficial in establishing the Board's goals for the next two years. It was suggested that outside people be brought in to inform the Board of the most powerful strategies to help improve student achievement. It was further suggested that the Board travel to different sites throughout the state and convene public meetings, gather information, and hold discussions regarding its goal setting and priorities. The information received could then be used to help the Board develop a list of four or five priorities designed to continue to move education forward in Michigan.

It was pointed out that the NASBE dues provide for one visit per year from Ms. Welburn, and that she brings a unique perspective through her contacts with other states. Certain Board members felt that the search for the new superintendent is partially based on the goals set for the last two years, and that a new set of goals should not be developed until a new superintendent is in place.

Others suggested that the Board should set the strategic priorities (between one and

four) and act as a convener in connection with developing policies to address these issues.

There was consensus that the the President, Vice President, and Secretary would meet to map out strategies for the next two years, and report to the Board at a later date.

XIII. ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION HONORING MARY BAILEY-HENGESH

**Mrs. Straus moved, seconded by Mr. Warren, that the State Board of Education approve the resolution honoring Mary Bailey-Hengesh, Consultant, as attached to the Superintendent's memorandum dated January 5, 2001.**

**The motion carried unanimously.**

The resolution is attached as Exhibit B.

XIV. REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

- G. Human Resources Report
- H. Report on Department of Education Cosponsorships
- I. Report on Approval of 2001-2004 Intermediate School District Special Education Plans
- J. 2000-2001 State Discretionary Projects, Part B - Alternate Assessment
- K. 2000-2001 State Discretionary Projects, Part B - Center for Educational Networking (CEN); Personnel Development Grant
- L. Section 32e Small K-3 Class Size Grants
- M. 2000-01 Goals 2000 Cycle 11/Categories One and Two
- N. 1999-2000 Technology Literacy Challenge Fund Cycle 4 - Statewide Projects - Amendment
- O. 2000 Team Nutrition Training Grant
- P. 1999 Team Nutrition Demonstration Grant Amendment
- Q. 2000-2001 State Discretionary Projects, Part B

Mr. Ellis provided an oral report on the following:

A. Center for Educational Performance Information (CEPI)

Mr. Ellis said Ms. Madhu R. Anderson, Chief Deputy Treasurer, has been named Director of the Center for Educational Performance Information (CEPI). He said he met with her recently, and she is pleased to have accepted this position. He feels she will do an excellent job as Director of CEPI.

XV. AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS

There were no awards and/or recognitions provided to the Board.

XVI. COMMENTS BY STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBERS

A. Migrant Education - Dr. Herbert S. Moyer

Dr. Moyer said he recently heard that Michigan may have missed out on some money intended for migrant education, and he was concerned because the report reflected negatively on the Department.

Mr. Ellis said it is common for the projected numbers for grants to be either high or low, and then adjustments are made at a later time.

Mrs. Weiser said the original projections for this money were higher than the actual number of students enrolled. She said the article was very confusing because it began reflecting badly on the Department, and finished by stating that the error was simply in the course of doing business.

B. Nonpartisan United Approach - Mr. Michael David Warren, Jr.

Mr. Warren expressed his appreciation at being elected as Secretary to the Board, and welcomed the opportunity to play a part in the agenda setting process and leadership team. He said he is committed to making the State Board of Education the best board in the nation, and improving its stature with the Legislature, the Governor, and all stakeholders in a non partisan way.

Mrs. Straus acknowledged that the Board by consensus had determined to expand the agenda setting and leadership team to include the position of secretary, and was very hopeful that the board would move forward in a unified and bipartisan manner.



C. Mr. John C. Austin - Mrs. Eileen Lappin Weiser

On behalf of the State Board of Education, Mrs. Weiser welcomed Mr. Austin, and said she is pleased that he has joined the Board. She said Mrs. Beardmore will be missed, but she is glad to have someone with Mr. Austin's depth in policy knowledge on the Board.

XVII. TENTATIVE AGENDA FOR THE NEXT MEETING

Board members were asked to submit agenda items for the February meeting to the Administrative Secretary. Mr. Ellis said Department staff would be meeting within the next couple of weeks to develop and finalize the agenda.

XVIII. FUTURE MEETING DATES

- A. January 23, 2001
- B. February 22, 2001
- C. March 15, 2001
- D. April 12, 2001
- E. May 17, 2001

XX. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 3:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael David Warren, Jr.  
Secretary